

SENATE APPROVES WILSON'S COURSE

By Vote of 78 to 5, Indorses
Severance of Diplomatic Re-
lations With Germany.

DEBATE LASTS FIVE HOURS

Ranking Republican Leaders Join
With Democrats in Whole-
hearted Support of Wilson.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, February 7.—President Wilson's severance of diplomatic relations with Germany was approved formally to-day by the Senate.
By a vote of 78 to 5, the Senate expressed confidence in the President's course, adopting a resolution submitted by Chairman Lodge of the Foreign Relations Committee, endorsing the withdrawal of American Ambassador Gerard from Berlin and the giving to German Ambassador Bernstorff his passports.
Senators who voted against the resolution were:
Democrats—Kirby, of Arkansas, and Vandaman, of Mississippi.
Republicans—Gronna, North Dakota; Works, California; and La Follette, Wisconsin.
Five hours of debate preceded the vote, but the only active opposition came from the five Senators who stood out against the resolution when the roll was called. The ranking Republican leaders joined the Democrats in declaring their wholehearted support of the President.

SENATE APPROVES ACTION

SET FORTH IN ADDRESS

The text of the resolution follows:
"Whereas the President has, for the reasons stated in his address delivered to the Congress in joint session on February 3, 1917, severed diplomatic relations with the imperial German government by the recall of the American ambassador at Berlin and by handing his passports to the German ambassador at Washington, and
"Whereas, notwithstanding this severance of diplomatic intercourse, the President has expressed his desire to avoid conflict with the imperial German government, and
"Whereas the President declared in this said address that if in his judgment an occasion should arise for further action in the premises on the part of the government of the United States he would submit the matter to the Congress and ask the authority of Congress to use such measures as he might deem necessary for protection of American commerce and people in the prosecution of their peaceful and legitimate trade on the high seas,
"Therefore, he it resolved by the Senate that the President approve the action taken by the President as set forth in his address delivered before the joint session of the Congress as stated above."

SHOULD LET WORLD KNOW

PRESIDENT IS SUPPORTED

"I have presented the resolution," said Senator Gronna, "because I think the matter before the Senate, because I think we should let the world know that we support the President of the United States whenever, acting within his constitutional power, he speaks authoritatively for the country. There are Senators who thought it would have been the better part of wisdom if the President had postponed the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany at least until Germany had committed some overt act offensive to the government, and sufficiently aggravated to warrant a step so grave in possible consequences; but the President took a different view, which with great ability he strongly supported in his address before the joint session.
"I think it both wise and advisable for the Senate to say officially that it accepts and approves this action of the nation's chief magistrate."
Senator Kirby made his first address to the Senate, an impassioned declaration that he would not support the resolution.
"I regard it as a preliminary declaration of war," he said, "if the resolution shall be voted upon favorably to-day. I do not believe the time has come in the history of this country when we shall side with Germany or when we shall side with the allies. The time has not come, in my opinion, when we should commit ourselves by the adoption of this resolution to any policy that the President may hereafter pursue. Under the Constitution and the law, he has no power to declare war, but he has, in fact, the power to plunge the nation into war, and to make it necessary for Congress to declare it, and he has almost done so."

LODGE LEADS DISCUSSION

FOR MINORITY SIDE

Senator Lodge, ranking Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee, led the discussion in favor of the resolution for the minority. He asserted that the President had taken grave action, and that he felt it his duty to support him "to the utmost of my power." He also appealed to the Senate against divisions in the crisis, as the best guaranty to preserve peace.
"My earnest hope," said Senator Lodge, "is that at this time, personal feelings, political feelings, political enmities will all be laid aside, that we may remember only that we are citizens of a common country, that we are all Americans, and that our first duty is to stand together in this controversy, which has unfortunately arisen with another nation, and let that nation and the world know that when the President speaks, as he has spoken, he has the Congress of the United States and the people of the United States, no matter what their race or origin, behind him in the one simple character of American citizens."

FIRST DUTY TO AMERICA

SAYS SENATOR SMITH

Senator Smith, of Michigan, Republican, said:
"I do not believe that the imperial
(Continued on Third Page.)

Germany to Intern Roumanian Males

Stricken Government Appeals to
Universal Conscience for New
Attack on Rights.

(By Associated Press.)
PARIS, February 7.—The Roumanian Minister of Foreign Affairs telegraphed to-day to the Roumanian legation in Paris that Germany has begun to transport for internment in Germany all Roumanian males from sixteen to sixty-seven years of age, although the French, Russians, Italians and Portuguese, protected by the Spanish legation, are being left in the country.
"This treatment," so the Germans say, "reads the telegram, 'is because Roumanian gave up to Russia the Germans in its power, and that these were transported to Siberia. It is absolutely false that Roumanian has ever delivered German subjects to Russia. It has not, then, been possible for them to be sent to Siberia."
The German government itself counts so little upon the pretext invoked that before announcing its decision to transport Roumanians to Germany, it proposed to the Roumanian government the exchange of Germans interned in Roumanian for Roumanians in Belgium.
"The Roumanian government can do nothing but protest against this new attack upon its rights by appealing to the universal conscience, which at the proper time, will aid Roumanian in exacting all the compensations due her," it said.

SAYS HE SAW SUBMARINE

Captain of Tug in Boston Harbor Tells of Sighting Strange- Looking Craft.

(By Associated Press.)
BOSTON, February 7.—The sighting of a strange vessel resembling a submarine was reported to-night by Captain Smith A. Ross, master of a harbor tug. Captain Ross said he saw the stranger four miles off Marblehead this morning. She was heading in from sea at a speed which he estimated at fifteen to eighteen knots an hour, but soon after being sighted it veered to the south toward Cape Cod.
Captain Ross expressed the belief that it was a submarine. He was familiar with American undersea boats, he said, but was certain the craft he sighted was not one of the American craft. The stranger flew no flag, he said.
After receiving the report from Captain Ross, navy-yard officials began a check on vessels known to be in those waters, but all which might answer the description of the tug were accounted for.
The strange vessel was described by Captain Ross as from 300 to 350 feet long, lying low in the water, with a small conical house or superstructure about fifteen or eighteen feet high, just forward of amidships.

ASKS EMERGENCY FUNDS

Secretary Lansing Wants \$500,000 for Transportation of Americans in London.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—An emergency appropriation of \$500,000 for relief, protection and transportation of Americans in Europe was asked of Congress to-day by Secretary Lansing.
The secretary did not mention specifically the break with Germany, merely calling attention to the continued extraordinary expenses of the State Department on account of the war, and suggesting that necessary money be provided immediately in view of the important developments in the international relations of the United States within the past few days.
When the European war began Congress appropriated \$2,750,000 for relief of thousands of Americans stranded abroad. Relief was discontinued more than a year ago, except in the most meritorious cases.
Secretary Lansing also asked for the appropriation of \$450,000 for the purchase of embassy property at Petrograd.

TWO MORE SCHOONERS LOST

Disasters Reported in Recent Heavy Seas Off Coast of Florida.

(By Associated Press.)
KEY WEST, Fla., February 7.—Loss of two more schooners, besides the Charles K. Schull, in the recent heavy seas near here, was reported to-day. The British schooner Cumberland County, a new vessel of 410 tons, stranded on Southwest Reef and is thought to be a total loss. Her captain and crew were brought here on the fishing schooner Elsie.
The American schooner Charlotte M. Miller, of 248 tons, is ashore on the quicksands near here. Her cargo of logwood is being brought here by wrecking tugs. Loss of the Schull, off of Gulfport for Rotterdam, with phosphate, was reported on Monday, when her captain and crew were brought here.

MAY BE ORDERED TO CUBA

Warning Given to American Ships Leaving Hampton Roads.

(By Associated Press.)
NEWPORT NEWS, Va., February 7.—American ships leaving Hampton Roads with coal have been notified by the government that they may receive wireless messages at sea ordering them to proceed to Guantanamo, Cuba, to coal the Atlantic Fleet now at that place, it was learned to-day.
An American captain stated that all American ship-owners have been notified by the government to have their ships ready for government service at any minute.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY SYSTEM

Operates three trains daily to Atlanta, Birmingham, Memphis, New Orleans, Texas and California. Phone Main 215 for information.
—Adv.

WORD FROM GERARD EAGERLY AWAITED

State Department Deeply Per-
plexed Over Whereabouts of
American Ambassador.

HEAR HE IS HELD AS HOSTAGE

If His Departure Is Forcibly De-
layed, Officials Say Effect
Will Be Serious.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, February 7.—The State Department to-night was deeply perplexed over the whereabouts of Ambassador Gerard. Contradictory cablegrams left grave doubts in the minds of officials as to whether the American diplomat still is in Berlin, or has reached some point in neutral territory. The department has received no direct word from the ambassador since Sunday.
Ambassador Gerard called the department from Berlin on February 4, asking for instructions as to the disposition of his staff. Before the message reached the department, Secretary Lansing had started on his way to Berlin in a message giving instructions affecting the staff.
Much anxiety was caused at the department by reports that Mr. Gerard was being detained in Berlin as a hostage, and probably would be so held until Count von Bernstorff departs for Germany. The department hurriedly took steps to ascertain the reasons for the envoy's detention.
A cablegram was received later in the day from Ambassador Willard at Madrid, stating he had received a message from Gerard, apparently dated at Bern, Switzerland.

CABLEGRAM FROM WILLARD

ADDS TO MYSTERY

The department was left in a quandary as to its meaning.
For a time they believed that Gerard may have reached neutral soil, as he intended coming home by way of Switzerland. They were inclined to the view however that Mr. Gerard would have reported his arrival in Bern direct to the State Department. It was thought possible he may have sent one of the secretaries of the embassy ahead of him to Bern with instructions to communicate with Ambassador Willard.
In the speculation that followed the receipt of the Willard dispatch, it was suggested that Gerard may have encountered some difficulty in arranging for his departure from Berlin, and had sought to get in quick touch with Willard in a message relayed through Bern. This was given credence by some of the higher officials, because of the fact that the Spanish government has taken over American interests in Berlin since diplomatic relations were severed, and Madrid would be obliged upon to smooth out any obstacles Gerard may encounter in getting out of Germany.
In the midst of all these doubts and contradictions, Secretary of State Lansing, by direction of President Wilson, finally sent a special dispatch direct to Ambassador Stovall at Bern, and Ambassador Willard, at Madrid, demanding all the facts as soon as possible. Responses from Madrid and Bern were expected to reach here not later than noon to-morrow, allowing for slight delays in transmission.

ANY ACTION BY GERMANY

WOULD HAVE SERIOUS EFFECT

Officials to-night did not try to minimize the seriousness of any official action by Germany in detaining Mr. Gerard. Officials made it plain that if he is held up in his departure, the effect must be serious.
From European sources outside of Germany the government has learned that the German government actually did consider Mr. Gerard practically as a hostage until it received advices from Washington detailing the arrangements made for the safe departure of Count von Bernstorff.
It was disclosed to-day that on Monday the State Department sent a long dispatch giving the plans worked out for the safe departure of the former German ambassador and his suite. Any plans German officials might have entertained to restrain the departure of Mr. Gerard were then dropped.
The German government's action is believed to have been more in the nature of a move to compel a safe return of Count von Bernstorff through the allied blockade rather than any step against Mr. Gerard or the United States.

BERNSTORFF AND FAMILY

ARRANGE TO SAIL

Count von Bernstorff and his official family have completed all arrangements to sail from New York on February 12, aboard the Frederick VIII. Attaches, clerks and servants have packed all their personal effects, and everything movable in the embassy quarters, except fixtures, have been boxed for shipment. The German envoy to-night declared that he had received no official word from Berlin that the Emperor had awarded him the iron cross with white ribbon, as reported in press dispatches.
Minister Ritter, of Switzerland, today was instructed by his government to take over German diplomatic interests in the United States, including the German embassy here and twelve consulates.

THE MINISTER INFORMED

THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S ACTION

In a note.
Swiss legation officials will move into the German embassy building when Count von Bernstorff and his staff depart.
Instructions have been sent to Swiss consuls to take over the German consulates in the following cities: Atlanta, New Orleans, Chicago, Cincinnati, Denver, New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Seattle, St. Louis, St. Paul and Manila.

HAILS ACT OF U. S. WITH ACCLAMATION

Former Premier Asquith Says
German Challenge Is Taken
Up With Dignity.

MEMORABLE EVENT IN WAR

American Ambassador Center of
Marked Attention at Open-
ing of Parliament.

(By Associated Press.)
NEW YORK, February 7.—Sailing of the American line steamships St. Louis and St. Paul, now in the port of New York, has been indefinitely postponed. It was announced here to-night by P. A. S. Franklin, president of the International Mercantile Marine.
The announcement followed an official statement received by telephone from the State Department at Washington, declining to advise private persons as to whether or not their ships should start on voyages which would take them within the war zones laid down by Germany. The State Department pointed out, however, that neutral vessels may arm themselves for defense if the owners so elect, and that it is the right of an American vessel to traverse any part of the high seas.
After receiving the message from Washington, Mr. Franklin issued the following statement:
"The American line announces that the sailing dates of the steamers St. Louis and St. Paul, now in the port of New York, have been indefinitely postponed. The following message was received to-day by telephone from Secretary of State Lansing:
"The government cannot give advice to private persons as to whether or not their merchant vessels should sail on a voyage to European ports by which they would be compelled to pass through the waters delineated in the declaration issued by the German government on January 31, 1917.
"It, however, asserts that the rights of American vessels to traverse all parts of the high seas are the same now as they were prior to the issuance of the German declaration, and that a neutral vessel may, if its owners believe that it is liable to be unlawfully attacked, take any necessary measures to prevent or repel attack."
"The American line officers have now taken under consideration whether to sail their steamers within prohibited waters or whether it is their duty to provide guns and gunners on their own account."

COMMISSION WILL CURB

POWER OF DIRECTORATES

To Refuse Incorporation Where Char-
ters Deny Stockholders Right
to Inspect Books.

LIMIT BUSINESS OF DIRECTORS

Will Not Be Allowed to Have Inter- ests That Would Make Minority Shareholders Pawns in Game of Interlocking Boards.

As contrary to public policy, and as outside the rights and privileges conferred by the general law, the State Corporation Commission will in the future decline to sanction any article of incorporation which will allow a director of the concern applying for a charter to have business interests antagonistic to those of shareholders for whom he is acting in the capacity of trustee.
Likewise, the commission will refuse to charter any concern which reserves in its articles of incorporation the right to withhold from a stockholder in the corporation its accounts and books, holding that the right of stockholders to inspect the books of a corporation rests upon the fact of ownership.
The opinion announcing the future policy of the commission was handed down yesterday by Chairman Christopher E. Garnett, who recited at length the authorities for refusing to allow provisions of this character to be incorporated in the charter of the Superior Sales Corporation.
The selected provisions read as follows:
"No contract or other transaction of the corporation shall, in the absence of fraud, be affected by the fact that any of the directors of the corporation are in any way interested in or connected with any other party to such contract or transaction, or are themselves parties to such contract or transaction; provided, that at the meeting of the board of directors authorizing or confirming such contract or transaction there shall be present a majority of the board of directors, who are not so interested or connected, and any such contract or transaction shall be approved by such majority."
"Any contract, transaction or act of the corporation or of the board of directors which shall be ratified by a majority of a quorum of the stockholders at any annual meeting or at any special meeting called for such purpose shall be as valid and as binding as though ratified by every stockholder of the corporation."
"The board of directors shall from time to time determine whether, and to what extent, and at what times and places, and what conditions and regulations, the accounts and books of the corporation, or any of them, shall be open to the inspection of the stockholders, and no stockholder shall have any right to inspect any book or account or document of the corporation except as conferred by law or authorized by the board of directors."

WOULD INVITE DIRECTORS

TO MANIPULATE TRUST

In concluding his opinion, Mr. Garnett says:
"To allow the insertion of the former provision would invite the directors to deal with the trust property for their own benefit, and to pocket the profits arising from such contracts, upon the false assumption that the stockholders were estopped to call such conduct into question before the courts. To allow the insertion of the latter provision would empower the directors to prevent the inspection of the corporate books and records for the discovery of any such doubtful transactions."
"To allow the insertion of both would, if it have any efficacy, give to the corporations possessing such charter provisions rights and privileges not only not conferred by the general law, but directly in the teeth of the general law, and ultimately enable all delinquent or dishonest directors to escape punishment."
(Continued on Second Page.)

BALTIMORE BY BOAT

One Way, \$4.00 Round Trip
YORK RIVER LINE, New Steamers
delivered over-night. Phone Madison
212.—Adv.

LINER TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING

Holds That It Is an American Right
to Traverse Any Part of High Seas

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MAY BE OVERT ACT THAT WILL DRIVE AMERICA INTO WAR

Only U. S. Citizen on Board
the California Among
Survivors.

WOMEN AND CHILDREN SAID TO BE MISSING

President, Who Must Make Deci-
sion, Retires Before News
Is Received.

U-BOATS STILL ON RAMPAGE

More Than Score of Merchant Craft
Sent to Bottom Within Past
Twenty-Four Hours.

(By Associated Press.)
Another transatlantic passenger steamer plying between New York and the British Isles—the California—has been sunk by a German submarine. Like the Lusitania, the steamer is declared to have been torpedoed without warning, and some of her passengers and crew, including two women and several children, are said to be missing. One American is heard to have been rescued. The sinking of the liner took place off the coast of Ireland. The survivors among her thirty-one passengers and crew of 184 are being taken to Queenstown. The California was a vessel of 8,662.
Including the California, British, Italian and Peruvian ships of a known tonnage of 22,425 have been sent to the bottom during the last twenty-four hours by German submarines. In addition, one British steamer, the tonnage of which is not known, and two British steam trawlers and two fishing boats also have been sunk, while the British steamer Azul, a vessel of 3,074 tons, is reported as "probably" sunk.
Ships reported sunk to-day, in addition to the California, include the following, all of them British, unless otherwise designated:
St. Ninian, 5,926 tons; Corsican Prince, 2,716 tons, crew landed; Saxon Briton, 1,337 tons, two crew killed, captain and fourteen others landed; Azul, 3,074 tons, twelve survivors landed; Vestra, 1,021 tons; Crown Point, 2,218 tons; two trawlers, two fishing boats; Peruvian bark Lorion, 1,119 tons; Italian steamer Ferruccio, 2,192 tons.

U. S. CONSUL REPORTS LINER

TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, February 7.—The steady stream of reports telling of the destruction of merchant ships by German submarines was brought to a climax to-night by a cablegram to the State Department from Consul Frost at Queenstown announcing that the British passenger liner California had been torpedoed without warning, and that an American citizen was among the survivors.
Whether this will prove to be the overt act to drive the United States into war no one would attempt to say to-night. President Wilson, who must make the decision, had retired when the news came, and officials did not wake him. Late in the afternoon he had been informed of a message from Consul Frost telling of the sinking of the California, but giving no details as to warning or the presence of Americans.
The President undoubtedly will wait for complete reports on the disaster before determining whether the time has come for him to go to Congress to ask authority to use any means that may be necessary "for the protection of our seamen and our people."

ONE AMERICAN AMONG

SURVIVORS AT QUEENSTOWN

The consul's first dispatch said there was "one death and thirty hospital cases" among the more than 200 people on board the liner. The second added no information concerning casualties except that the survivors were landed at Queenstown, among them being John A. Lee, of Montgomery, Ala., the only American known to have been aboard, and that some still were missing, including two women and several children.

The captain of the ship was quoted as saying the submarine did not hail or give any warning before firing two torpedoes from a distance of 300 yards, and sending the California down.

The fact that the American escaped lessened in a degree the excitement created by the news, but in only a degree.

More than a score of merchant craft have been sent to the bottom in the war zone within the past twenty-four hours, and fifty or more since the German proclamation of ruthless warfare on the seas went into effect last Thursday. It is realized that if no citizen of the United States was among the victims it merely was a fortunate accident, and that it can be only a matter of hours before Americans are caught in such wholesale destruction.

The California, which was bound from New York for Glasgow, is the first big passenger steamer to be destroyed since the Arabia was torpedoed in the Mediterranean months ago. Her sinking has about swept away the last lingering hope here that Germany after

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